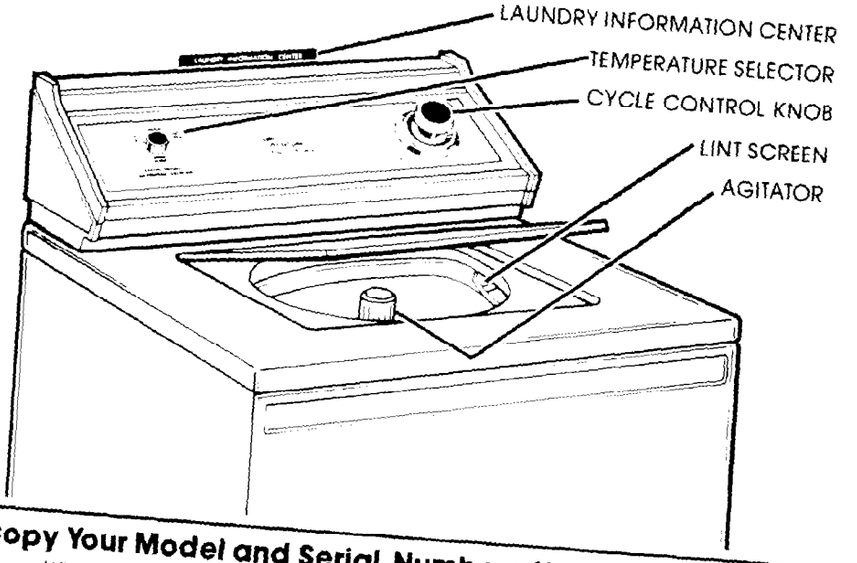
Model LA4000XK
Regular Capacity

Whirlpool AUTOMATIC WASHER

Use & Care Guide



Copy Your Model and Serial Numbers Here

When you need service, or call with a question, have this information ready:

1. **Complete** Model and Serial Numbers (from the plate under the lid near the hinge).
2. Purchase date from sales slip (or date installed).

Copy this information in these spaces. Keep this book in the Laundry Information Center with your *Laundry Guide*, sales slip and warranty.

Model Number

Serial Number

Purchase/Installation Date

Service Company and Phone Number

Before using your Washer

Please read this booklet to be sure your washer is installed and used properly. It will help you get the best results and longest life your washer was designed to give.

You are personally responsible for making sure that your washer...

- Is installed by a qualified installer.
- Is properly installed and leveled on a floor that can support the weight.*
- Is connected to the right kind of outlet, electric supply, water supply and drain.*
- Is properly electrically grounded.*
- Is used only for jobs normally expected of home automatic washers.
- Is properly maintained.
- Is protected from the weather.
- Is not run by children or anyone unable to operate it properly.

Remove the Consumer Buy Guide label. It will be easier to remove before the washer is used.

You may want to wipe out the basket with a damp cloth before using to remove dust from storing or shipping.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: See the Laundry Guide for tips on detergents, other laundry aids and instructions for washing special items.

*See the Installation Instructions for complete information.

SAFETY FIRST
Do not permit children to operate or play with the washer.

CAUTION: Store laundry detergent and additives in a cool, dry place where children can't reach them.

SPINNING SAFETY
If the lid is opened while the basket is spinning, the basket will automatically stop in a few seconds. DO NOT ADD OR REMOVE ITEMS UNTIL THE BASKET STOPS COMPLETELY.

SPECIAL CAUTION
Flammable gases may build up in hot water pipes and heater. This can happen when hot water hasn't been used for a while (usually two weeks or more).
To prevent injury or damage, allow any gases to escape by running hot water from the faucet nearest the washer for several minutes. Don't smoke near the faucet while it is open, and turn off any open flame.

Contents

Before Using Your Washer 2
Loading Your Washer 3
Understanding Your Washer 3
Cleaning the Lint Filter 3
Using Your Washer 4
Important Detergent Information 6
For a Pre Wash 7
For Rinsing Only 7
For Spinning Only 7
Cycle Operation 8
- KNIT GENTLE 8
- REGULAR HEAVY 8
- SOAK 8

If You Need Service or Help 10
1. Before Calling for Service 10
2. If You Need Service 11
3. If You Have a Problem 11

Loading your Washer

For best washing results and energy savings, sort the laundry carefully.

1. Sort the Laundry into Loads.

- Group the laundry into loads that can be washed and dried together. See the Laundry Guide for information and samples of typical loads.
- Try to mix large and small items for best movement in the washer.

2. Measure Detergent; Add to Washer Basket.

- See detergent information on page 6 and in Section IV of the Laundry Guide.
- Add dry bleach or water conditioner (not fabric softener) if used. **Follow the package directions carefully.**

3. Dilute Liquid Bleach Before Adding to the Washer Basket.

- See the "Laundry Aids" section of the Laundry Guide for more information.

4. Load the Washer.

- Spread the load evenly. (Don't put all the towels on one side and a few wash cloths on the other.) An unbalanced load can cause the washer to shake during spinning.
- Load without packing so items can move freely for best cleaning and least wrinkling.

5. Add Diluted Fabric Softener Only to the Deep Rinse Cycle.

- **DO NOT ADD FABRIC SOFTENER TO THE WASH.** Fabric softeners can combine with soap or detergent to make greasy stains on fabrics.

Understanding your Washer

This automatic washer has three cycles. Each is designed for a fabric type.

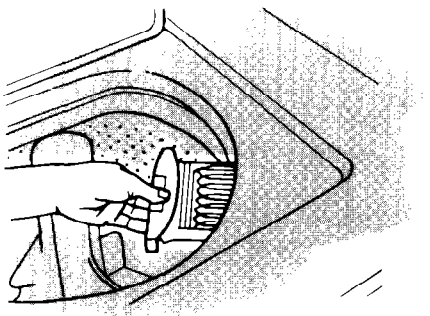
It has a **TEMPERATURE SELECTOR**. You can select the wash water temperature best for the amount of soil and fabric type in each load.

You can control the amount of water that fills the washer by moving the Control Knob according to instructions on page 5.

Sections in this *Use & Care Guide* go into detail on the "what and why" of each setting. Read this and the *Laundry Guide* carefully to get the best cleaning results.

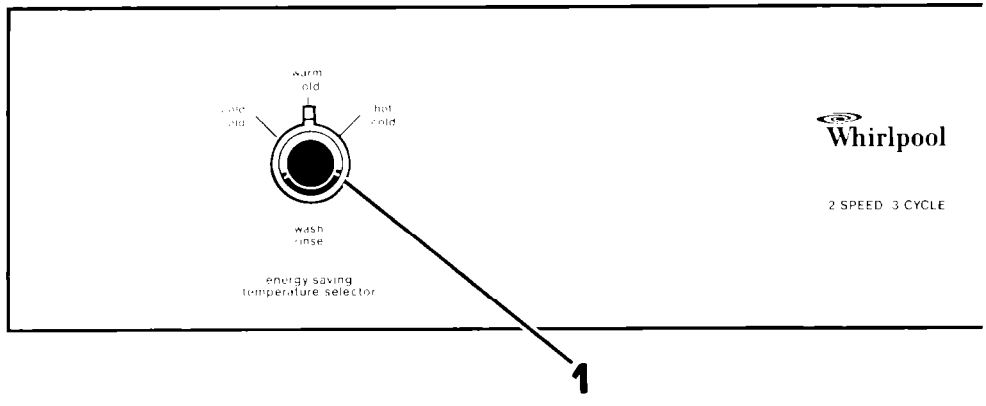
Cleaning the Lint Filter

Water runs through the lint filter whenever the washer agitates. Check it often to make sure it's clean and filtering at its best.



To remove it for cleaning, press the release and pull straight out. Instructions for cleaning are printed on the bottom of the filter.

Using Your Washer



Your automatic washer is easy to use. To make it even easier, read the following steps before starting your first load.

Start your washer after you put in detergent, the load, and any other laundry aids according to information on page 3.

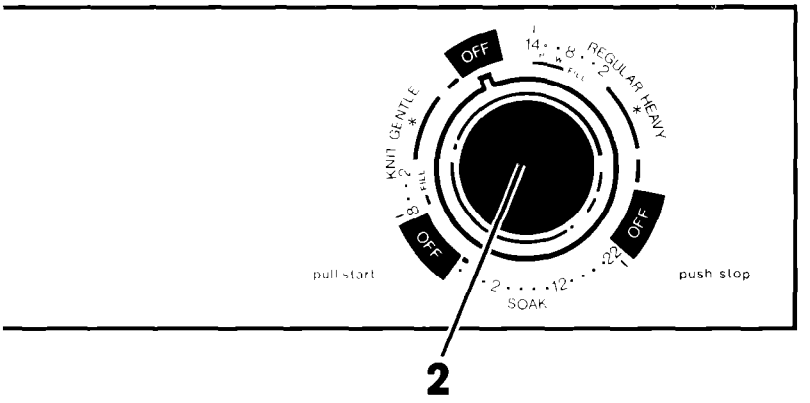
1. Set the TEMPERATURE SELECTOR.

- Match the wash water temperature to the type of fabrics and soils being washed. All rinses are cold.

Cold water rinses save energy and help prevent wrinkles from setting into fabrics.

2. Select a Cycle and Start the Washer.

- Push the Cycle Control Knob in and turn it to the right (clockwise).
- Stop when the pointer is on the *number of minutes* you want in the cycle you want. **NOTE:** In the REGULAR HEAVY and KNIT GENTLE Cycles, the washer will fill only if the Control Knob points to a fill area.
- Instructions on which cycle to use for each fabric type are under the lid.
- To start the washer, pull the Cycle Control Knob out. When the cycle is over, the washer will stop.
- **To stop the washer at any time during a cycle, push the Control Knob in.** Pull it out to restart the washer.
- **To change a setting,** push the Control Knob in to stop the washer. Then turn the Control Knob to the right (clockwise) to the setting you want. Pull the knob out to start the washer.



3. **To Use Less Wash Water.**

When you have only a few items to wash, you may want to use less water to help save energy. *Setting the washer to fill with less water also sets it for a shorter agitation time.*

- The washer will fill to its highest level (about 16.9 gallons or 64.0 liters) when the Control Knob points to a fill area.
- To use less water, push the Control Knob in and turn to the right (clockwise) to a fill area in either the REGULAR HEAVY or KNIT GENTLE Cycle.

- Pull the Control Knob out; the washer will start to fill.
- When there is as much water as you want in the washer, push the Control Knob in. **SLOWLY** turn the Control Knob to the right, past the fill area. Pull the knob out to start.
- You can have as many as 6, or as few as 2, minutes of agitation with a low water level in the REGULAR HEAVY Cycle. In the KNIT GENTLE Cycle, you will have 2 to 4 minutes of agitation.
- For the SOAK Cycle, the washer fills to its highest level with water of the selected temperature. For a rinse, the washer fills to its highest level with cold water.

4. **Load Sizes.**

For the best cleaning results, the load should move freely in the water. Watch for rollover. An item (like a sock) should sink and come up again later.

Important Detergent Information

Detergents and soaps clean by loosening soil and by holding it in the water so it drains away. If not enough detergent is used, soil and lint can settle back on the items in the load.

SOAP works best in *soft water* (0-4 grains hardness); in harder water, both the wash and rinse water should be softened. Use enough soap to make about 1½ to 2 inches (3.8 to 5.5 cm) of suds.

DETERGENT works in *hard or soft water*. Package directions are usually based on soft water and washers with normal-size tubs. **Use more detergent...**

1. for hard water
2. for heavy greasy or oily soils
3. if the detergent is low phosphate
4. for cold-water washes

DETERGENT SUDS. There are high, normal and low sudsing powdered detergents. If the recommended amount of detergent makes too much suds, switch to a lower sudsing brand. **DO NOT REDUCE THE AMOUNT** of detergent.

Use the following chart as beginning suggestions for powdered and liquid detergent amounts. **See your *Laundry Guide* for more information (pages 14-22).**

RECOMMENDED AMOUNT OF DETERGENT *– FULL TUB

	WATER HARDNESS IN GRAINS		
	0-4 Grains	4-10 Grains	10-20 Grains
Powdered Detergents			
Low Suds	¾ cup (175 mL)	1¼ cups (250-300 mL)	1¼-1½ cups (300-350 mL)
Normal Suds	1¼ cups (300 mL)	1¾ cups (425 mL)	2-2¼ cups (475-525 mL)
High Suds	1-1¼ cups (300-350 mL)	2 cups (475 mL)	2½ cups (600 mL)
No phosphate	– Follow package recommendations –		
Liquid Detergents	¼ to 1 cup (60 to 250 mL), depending on the brand and amount of soil. Follow package recommendations.		

* These recommendations do not apply...
- In areas where phosphates are banned.
- In areas with laws limiting (by weight or percentage) the amount of detergent used in a wash load.

For a Pre Wash

Use this setting for a shorter SOAK CYCLE (no rinse) to pre-soak tough detergent for a single wash. All the load.

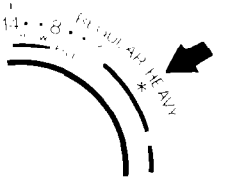
- Set the **LOAD SIZE SELECTOR.**
- Set wash water temperature.

- Push the Cycle Control Knob in and turn it to the 12-minute mark in the SOAK CYCLE.
- Pull the Control Knob out to start the washer.
- The washer will fill, agitate for two minutes, soak for eight minutes, agitate for two more, and then drain and spin. (See SOAK CYCLE description on page 8.)
- **After filling, the washer may pause before starting to agitate.**

For Rinsing Only

Loads with towels, diapers, jeans or heavily soiled items often need extra detergent. Extra detergent can require an extra rinse.

Your washer can be set to rinse only. Use the setting for an extra rinse, or for laundry that only needs a rinse and spin.



There is an asterisk (*) just after the numbers in two cycles. If you push in on the Cycle Control Knob, turn the pointer to one of those asterisks and pull the Control Knob out, the washer will fill, agitate, drain and spin.

For high agitation and spin speeds, use the asterisk in the REGULAR/HEAVY Cycle. The KNIT/GENTLE Cycle has low agitation and spin speeds.

> The washer fills with cold water. Water level and temperature can't be adjusted in this setting.

For Spinning Only

There may be times when you want to drain out all the wash water and start over. To stop the washer at any time, just push in on the Cycle Control Knob.

To set the washer so it drains and spins water out of the load, push in on the Control Knob, turn the dial to the right (clockwise) so the pointer is touching the bar just before OFF in any cycle.

The washer will drain, spin out water and stop.

Cycle Operation

Your washer has three cycles on the Cycle Control Dial. Each cycle is designed to match a fabric type with pre-set agitation and spin speeds.

The numbers in each cycle are for the number of minutes you want the washer to agitate before it drains and fills for the rinse. You will want longer agitation times for heavily soiled loads.

You choose the wash water temperature you want with the

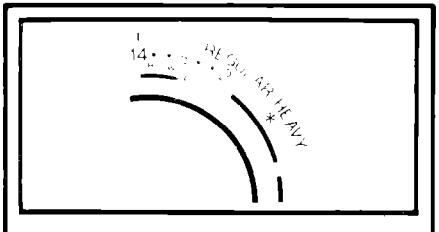
WHAT HAPPENS IN EACH CYCLE:

- SET WATER TEMPERATURE
- PUSH IN KNOB, TURN TO CYCLE AND TIME
- PULL OUT TO START

KNIT GENTLE CYCLE

Use for delicate items and washable synthetic knits such as polyester, nylon, acrylic. Wash nylon hose or panty hose in a net laundry bag.

FILL → WASH Selected Time; Low Agitation → DRAIN No Agitation

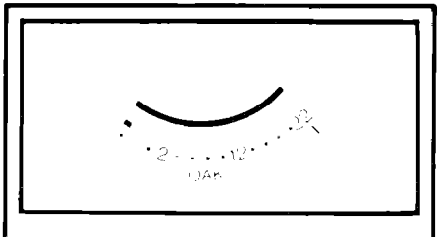


- SET WATER TEMPERATURE
- PUSH IN KNOB, TURN TO CYCLE AND TIME
- PULL OUT TO START

REGULAR HEAVY CYCLE

Use for sturdy white and colorfast cottons, and for heavy work clothes. High agitation and spin speeds help get the best cleaning results.

FILL → WASH Selected Time; High Agitation → DRAIN No Agitation



- SET WATER TEMPERATURE
- PUSH IN KNOB, TURN TO CYCLE AND TIME
- PULL OUT TO START

SOAK CYCLE

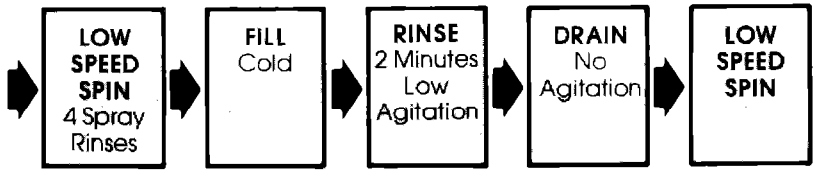
This cycle is not for washing; it soaks, agitates, spins out the water and stops (no rinse). Use it for stained, yellowed, grey or heavily soiled laundry with a detergent or pre-soak product. Chlorine bleach, if wanted, should be added to the cycle you use after the SOAK Cycle is over.

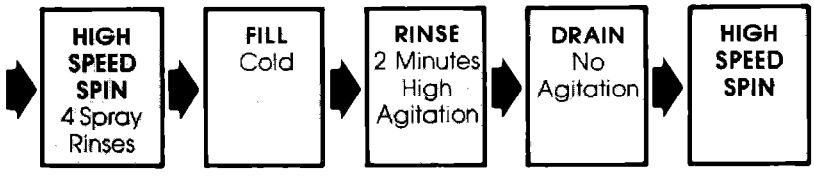
FILL → WASH 2 Minutes Low Agitation → SOAK 8 Minutes No Agitation

TEMPERATURE SELECTOR. Rinse water is cold in all settings. You can also work the Cycle Control Knob to use less water when washing small loads. (See page 5.)

NOTE: You may notice that some of the "SPIN" cycles have **SPRAY RINSES.** Cold water is sprayed on the spinning load to help rinse and remove detergent residue.

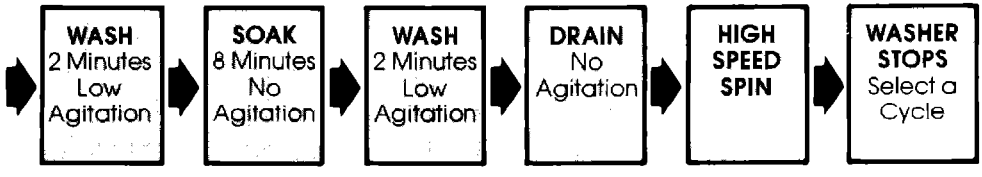
If you turn to a cycle and start the washer, but change your mind, push in on the Cycle Control Knob and turn to the right (clockwise) to the setting you want. Then pull out to start.





*** Dissolve enzyme pre-soak and detergent powders to help prevent spot fading on colored items. If you use chlorine bleach, it MUST be diluted with a quart of warm water and added after the washer fills. See *Laundry Guide* for more information.**

Before adding detergent for washing, dissolve in quart of warm water (or use liquid detergent).


WASH 2 Minutes Low Agitation
SOAK 8 Minutes No Agitation
WASH 2 Minutes Low Agitation
DRAIN No Agitation
HIGH SPEED SPIN
WASHER STOPS Select a Cycle

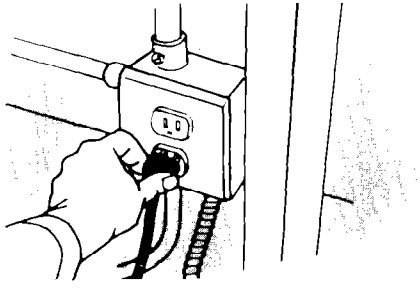
|← Pre Wash setting (page 7) begins here.

If You Need Service or Help, We suggest You Follow These Three Steps:

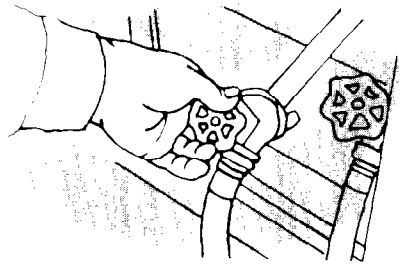
1. **Before calling for service** ...

Problems are sometimes caused by little things you can correct without tools. Check this list before you call for service:

IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT FILL:



- Is the power supply cord plugged in?
- Are both water faucets open?



- Is a fuse blown or circuit-breaker tripped?
- Are the water supply hoses kinked?
- Is the Cycle Control Knob set and pulled out?

IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT SPIN:

- Is the lid closed?
- Is the power supply cord plugged in?
- Is a fuse blown or circuit-breaker tripped?

IF WASHER FILLS AND DRAINS WITHOUT RUNNING:

- Make sure that the Cycle Control Knob is pointing to a number in the cycle.

MAKE SURE THE DRAIN HOSE IS HIGHER THAN THE WATER LEVEL IN THE WASHER. IF IT ISN'T...

- The washer may seem to be draining during wash and rinse cycles.
- Water can siphon out. (See Installation Instructions.)

2. If you need service*:

If your WHIRLPOOL* appliance ever needs service anywhere in the United States, help is just a phone call away... to your nearest Whirlpool franchised TECH-CARE* service representative.

Whirlpool maintains a nationwide network of franchised TECH-CARE service companies to fulfill your warranty and provide after-warranty service and maintenance to keep your WHIRLPOOL appliance in peak condition.

You'll find your nearest TECH-CARE service company listed in your local telephone book Yellow Pages under APPLIANCES – HOUSEHOLD – MAJOR SERVICE & REPAIR. **Should you not find a listing, dial free, the Whirlpool COOL-LINE* service assistance telephone number.**

When calling from:

Michigan	**(800) 632-2243**
Alaska & Hawaii	**(800) 253-1121**
All other states	**(800) 253-1301**

If you move... To make sure that your appliance is correctly installed and to insure its continued satisfactory operation, please telephone your nearest TECH-CARE* service company for installation or to get the name of a qualified installer. (Installation cost will, of course, be paid by you.)

Helpful hints... You can help your TECH-CARE service representative give you faster service if you include the model and serial number of your appliance when requesting service. Also, retain your sales slip and warranty to verify your warranty status.

Remember... Your TECH-CARE service representative is specially trained in the expert repairing and servicing of your WHIRLPOOL appliances. He can help you maintain the quality originally built into your WHIRLPOOL appliance. So why not take the time, now, to look up his telephone number and jot it down in the space provided on the cover.

3. If you have a problem*:

Call Whirlpool Corporation in Benton Harbor at the COOL-LINE service assistance telephone number (see Step 2) or write:

Mr. Guy Turner, Vice President
Whirlpool Corporation
Administrative Center
2000 U.S. 33 North
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

*If you must call or write, please provide: your name, address, telephone number, type of appliance, brand, model, serial number, date of purchase, the dealer's name, and a complete description of the problem. This information is needed in order to better respond to your request for assistance.

FSP is a registered trademark of Whirlpool Corporation for quality parts. Look for this symbol of quality whenever you need a replacement part for your Whirlpool appliance. FSP replacement parts will fit right and work right, because they are made to the same exacting specifications used to build every new Whirlpool appliance.

Whirlpool
Home Appliances

Benton Harbor, Michigan. Automatic Washers, Clothes Dryers, Freezers, Refrigerator-Freezers, Ice Makers, Dishwashers, Built-in Ovens and Surface Units, Ranges, Microwave Ovens, Compactors, Room Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Central Heating and Air Conditioning Systems.

Quality. Our way of life.

Part No. 382595 Rev. A

Printed in U.S.A.